Archie ADVENTURE SERIES

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Enter The Exotic And Exciting World Of...

KNUCKLES™ THE ECHIDNA

DIRECT EDITION

KNUCKLES™

BOOK TWENTY-EIGHT
THE FIRST DATE
PART THREE OF THREE

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BORN TO THE MOST NOBLE OF ECHIDNA HOUSES, THE LATEST TO CONTINUE THE FAMILY HERITAGE AND RESPONSIBILITY AS GUARDIAN OF THE FLOATING ISLAND, DEFENDER OF ALL AGAINST THE FORCES OF EVIL FROM THE WORLD BEYOND AS WELL AS THOSE WHO WOULD THREATEN FROM WITHIN!
ARCHIE COMICS AND SEGA PRESENT... KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA!

Our story thus far...
Just when Knuckles thought he had things figured out, he finds himself back to square one. After asking Julie-Su out on a date, Knuckles has no idea where to take her or even what to do. But when there are no plans made, no one comes up with them quite like a woman can...

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BBBBBBBBBBBBBRIIIIIINNNGGG
NOW, WHOEVER COULD THAT BE?
KNUCKLES!
HELLO, MOTHER!
I HOPE I'M NOT INTERRUPTING ANYTHING!
NO! NO! COME IN! COME IN!
IT'S SO GOOD TO SEE YOU, SON!
SAME HERE, MOM!
I WAS JUST ABOUT TO MAKE LUNCH. WOULD YOU LIKE SOME?
YEAH! I GUESS!
YOU GUESS?
IS SOMETHING THE MATTER, HONEY?
WELL-- NO--KINDA-- I DON'T KNOW!
THAT SURE TELLS ME A LOT!
WHY DON'T YOU TELL ME WHAT REALLY BROUGHT YOU HERE TODAY?
MAYBE IT WOULD BE EASIER IF I PUT IT ANOTHER WAY--
--AND JUST ASKED WHAT YOU AND DAD DID ON YOUR FIRST DATE!
MY--
--OH, MY!
THAT WAS ANOTHER LIFETIME AGO, KNUCKLES!
WHAT COULD THAT POSSIBLY HAVE TO DO WITH YOU?

IT'S JULIE-SU, MOM!

I ASKED HER OUT ON A DATE--

--AND IT DIDN'T OCCUR TO ME UNTIL THIS MORNING THAT I REALIZED I DON'T KNOW THE FIRST THING ABOUT GOING ON A DATE!

SO I FIGURED I'D ASK YOU!

WHAT DO YOU DO ON A DATE?

MOSTLY YOU SPEND TIME GETTING TO KNOW EACH OTHER!

LIKE HOW? WHAT DID YOU AND DAD DO?

YOUR FATHER TOOK ME ON A PICNIC!

A PICNIC?

YES! HE PREPARED EVERYTHING! HE EVEN READ ME SOME OF HIS POETRY!

POETRY? FROM DAD?!

BELIEVE IT OR NOT, YES, AND HE WAS WONDERFUL!

WHEN IS THIS DATE, BY THE WAY?

THIS FRIDAY!

THIS FRIDAY?

OH, NO! THIS WILL RUIN THE SURPRISE IF HE GOES OUT THAT NIGHT!

ON THE OTHER HAND--

"--IT COULD VERY LIKELY BE THE BEST WAY TO KILL TWO BIRDS WITH ONE STONE--PROVIDED SOMEONE ELSE IS AGREEABLE WITH MY SUGGESTION!"
LADY LARA LE?!!
WHATEVER BRINGS YOU HERE?
A THOUSAND APOLOGIES FOR THE MESS! MY APARTMENT ISN'T NORMALLY LIKE THIS!

CAN I GET YOU A DRINK?
PLEASE MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME!
I'M FINE, JULIE-SU!
JUST RELAX AND TAKE A DEEP BREATH--
-- AS WE NEED TO TALK!
IT COULD BE LOVE
(I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN BETTER)

IT SOUNDS SERIOUS!
I CAME TO DISCUSS YOUR DATE WITH KNUCKLES, DEAR!
MY--?!!
OH, THAT!
DON'T WORRY, MY LADY! I HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN THE TALK WE HAD!*
*REFER TO KNUCKLES #8--JUSTIN.
YOU MISUNDERSTAND ME, JULIE-SU!
I DIDN'T COME HERE TO DISCOURAGE YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH MY SON!
YOU DIDN'T?
ON THE CONTRARY, I'M HERE TO SEE IF THE TWO OF YOU HAD ANY SPECIFIC PLANS FOR THIS FRIDAY!
NOT THAT I'M AWARE OF!
HE WASN'T SPECIFIC ABOUT ANYTHING!
HE SIMPLY ASKED ME OUT AND I ACCEPTED!
THAT'S PERFECT, THEN!
IT IS?
QUITE SO!
IF YOU'RE WILLING TO LISTEN TO MY SUGGESTION--
5

"—THIS IS SURE TO BE ONE DATE MY SON WON'T *EVER* FORGET!"

WHAT'S WRONG, VEC? I MEAN I FEEL BAD THAT CHARMY CAN'T MAKE IT TO KNUX'S BIG DAY, BUT I'M NOT LETTING THAT GET ME DOWN.

IT'S NOT THAT. IT'S ABOUT KNUX.

I CAN'T BELIEVE MY OWN *BUDDYMAN* WOULD *TRASH* ME LIKE THAT!*

YOU'RE *LUCKY* KNUCKLES DIDN'T RIP YOUR HEAD OFF, VECTOR!

AND YOU'D HAVE *DESERVED* IT, TOO!

WHAT'S WITH YOU AND JULIE-SU, ANYWAY?

IT'S NOT LIKE SHE HAS TO GO OUT OF HER WAY TO *ANNOY* YOU, VECTOR!

*SEE LAST ISSUE —YE EDITOR.

WE'RE LIKE *OIL* AND *WATER*, MIGHTY—

—A *BAAAAD* COMBINATION!

I CAN'T EXPLAIN IT OTHER THAN SHE RUBS ME THE *WRONG* WAY!

YOU'RE NOT THE *EASIEST* GUY TO GET ALONG WITH, EITHER, VECTOR!

MY FRIENDS ARE CONSTANTLY ASKING ME *WHY* I EVEN HANG OUT WITH YOU!

WHAT ABOUT YOU, MIGHTY?

I JUST WANT EVERYONE TO *GET ALONG*!

THAT *ALSO* INCLUDES BEING *COOL* WITH JULIE-SU!

WHY NOT?

BREAKING UP THE GANG IS ONE RAP I DON'T NEED HANGING OVER MY HEAD!

ME NEITHER!

HUH?!

COMING

SOON!

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KNUCKLES!
YOU WERE EXPECTING MAYBE SONIC?
AS IF!

LISTEN--
--I WAS WAAAY OUTTA LINE LAST TIME!
EVEN IF YOU WEREN'T AROUND, I SHOULDN'T HAVE SAID WHAT I SAID!

MAYBE I WAS QUICK TO JUMP THE GUN, AS WELL!
WE SQUARE THEN?

YEAH, VECTOR--
WE'RE SQUARE!
ALLLLLLL-RIIIIIIGHT!!!
LEGGO, MIGHTY!
THIS IS DOWNRIGHT EMBARRASSING!
HOW ABOUT A SOFT LANDING, YA' DILLO!!
YAAAAY!
IT'S ABOUT TIME WE QUIT BICKERING AMONG OURSELVES!
AREN'T WE FORGETTING SOMEONE, GUYS?
WHAT ABOUT JULIE-SU?

LAST TIME I CHECKED, SHE WAS *STILL* ONE OF US!

AND SHE STILL *IS*! RIGHT, VECTOR?

YEAH-- *SURE*!

I'LL EVEN TELL HER *MYSELF*!

BRRR!

YES?

INCOMING TRANSMISSION FOR YOU, LOCKE!

IT'S *LARA-LE*!

PATCH IT THROUGH, DEO!

ACKNOWLEDGED!

LARA! NOW THIS IS A *SURPRISE*!

SO WHAT DID I DO NOW?

I DIDN'T CALL TO *ARGUE* WITH YOU!

I'M SIMPLY *INQUIRING* WHAT YOUR PLANS ARE FOR THIS *FRIDAY*!

THIS FRIDAY?

I DON'T KNOW!

I POSTED A *REMINDER* TO MYSELF ABOUT IT--

--BUT I *FORGOT* WHAT IT WAS I WAS REMINDING MYSELF ABOUT!

THAT SOUNDS LIKE *PAR* FOR THE COURSE.

HOWEVER, I'LL TAKE *PITY* ON YOU JUST THIS ONCE!

THIS FRIDAY IS *OUR SON'S 16TH BIRTHDAY*--

--AND I'M *CERTAIN* HE'D *LOVE* TO SEE YOU AMONG THE WELL-WISHERS AT THE *SURPRISE PARTY* THAT WYN AND I ARE THROWING FOR HIM!

ONE BIG *HAPPY* FAMILY, EH?

LOOK--CAN WE BE *CIVIL* OR WHAT?

I WAS ONLY *THINKING* ABOUT WHAT WOULD MAKE *KNUCKLES* HAPPY!

YOU'RE *RIGHT*--

--AND I'M *SORRY*!

SO, *HOW* CAN I *HELP* OUT?

"NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, WHEN THE *BIG DAY* ARRIVES.. "

MY! AREN'T WE *PRETTY*!

Gasp!!!

I THOUGHT YOU *RETURNED* TO *HAVEN*!

I POPPED IN TO WISH YOU WELL, M'BOY!

Y'KNOW, GO *BREAK* A LEG--

GO HAVE MY *HEAD* EXAMINED IS MORE LIKE IT!

WHAT AM I DOING?

NOW IS *NOT* THE TIME FOR *SECOND* THOUGHTS, LAD!

FAINT OF HEART NE ER WON OVER FAIR MAIDEN!

ON THE OTHER HAND, EVER *CONSIDER* THE NOTION THAT *DATING* IS MORE *TROUBLE* THAN IT'S WORTH?

"LET'S SEE IF YOU *STILL* FEEL THAT WAY *AFTER* ALL IS SAID AND DONE."

RHINNG!

HI, KNUCKLES!

I'LL BE DOWN IN A MINUTE!

NO PROBLEM!

WHAT'S A MINUTE OR TWO BETWEEN *FRIENDS*?

GET A GRIP ON YOURSELF, GIRL!

YOU *KNOW* WHAT *NEEDS* TO BE DONE!

IT'S ONLY THOSE *UNPLANNED* MOMENTS YOU HAVEN'T A CLUE ABOUT!

YOU ALL SET, JULIE-SU?

NEVER READIER!

OKAY, THEN, LET'S GO!

BEFORE WE DO--

--DO YOU MIND IF I SUGGEST A *CHANGE* OF PLANS?

A CHANGE?

IF YOU DON'T MIND!

A FRIEND OF MINE IS GIVING A POETRY RECITAL AT THE *COMMONS' HALL* TONIGHT!

POETRY?

"TRUST ME! YOU'LL HAVE THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE!"

ABOUT TIME!

THEY'RE HERE!

IF I'D KNOWN WE WERE TRAVELLING ACROSS TOWN, I'D HAVE BROUGHT ARCHIMEDES!

IF YOU THINK WE NEED A CHAPERONE, WHY NOT GIVE A HOLLER?

Awwww, THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT!

I KNOW, SILLY!

SO, WHERE IS THIS BIG SHINDIG GOING DOWN?

I TOLD YOU--

--AT THE COMMONS' HALL!

ARE YOU SURE?

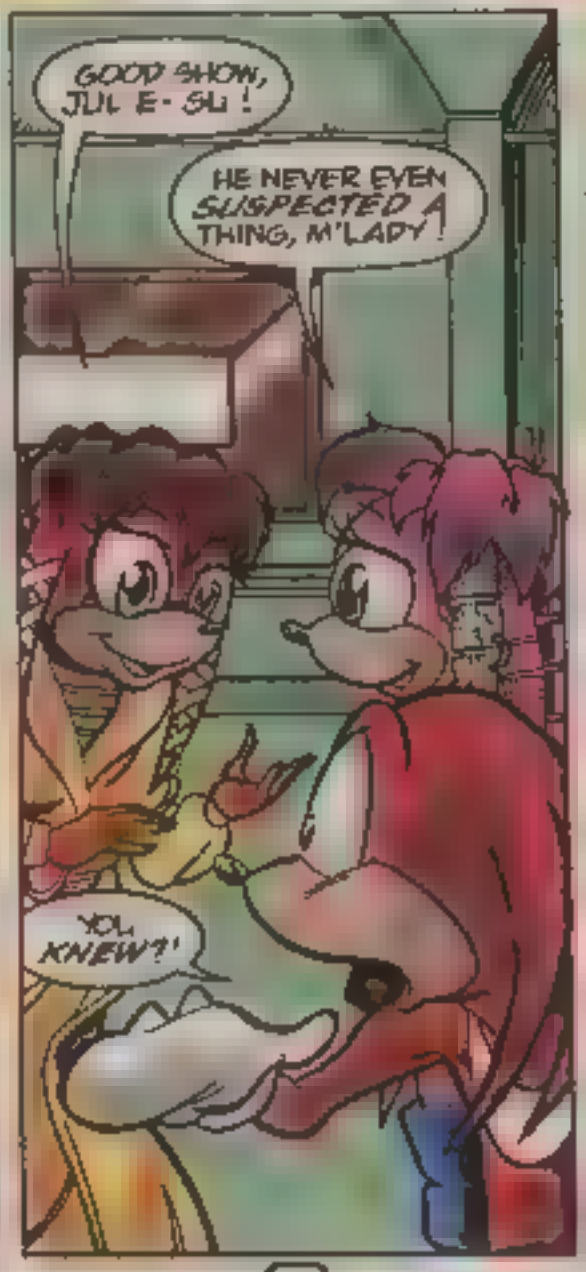
DOESN'T STRIKE ME AS THE KIND'A JOINT YOU'D GO TO!

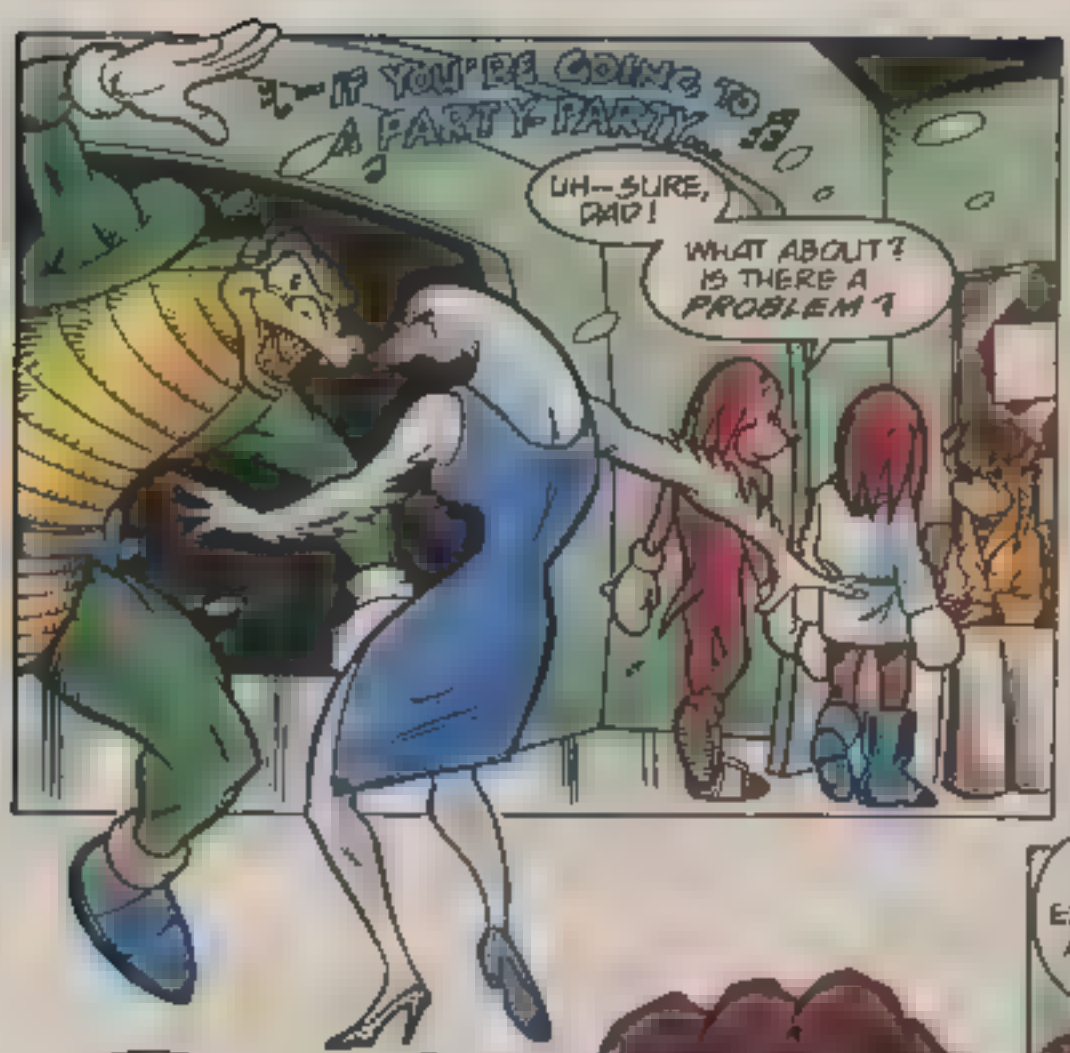
SURPRISE

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, KNUCKLES!

MUH-- MUH--

YOU WERE SAYING--?

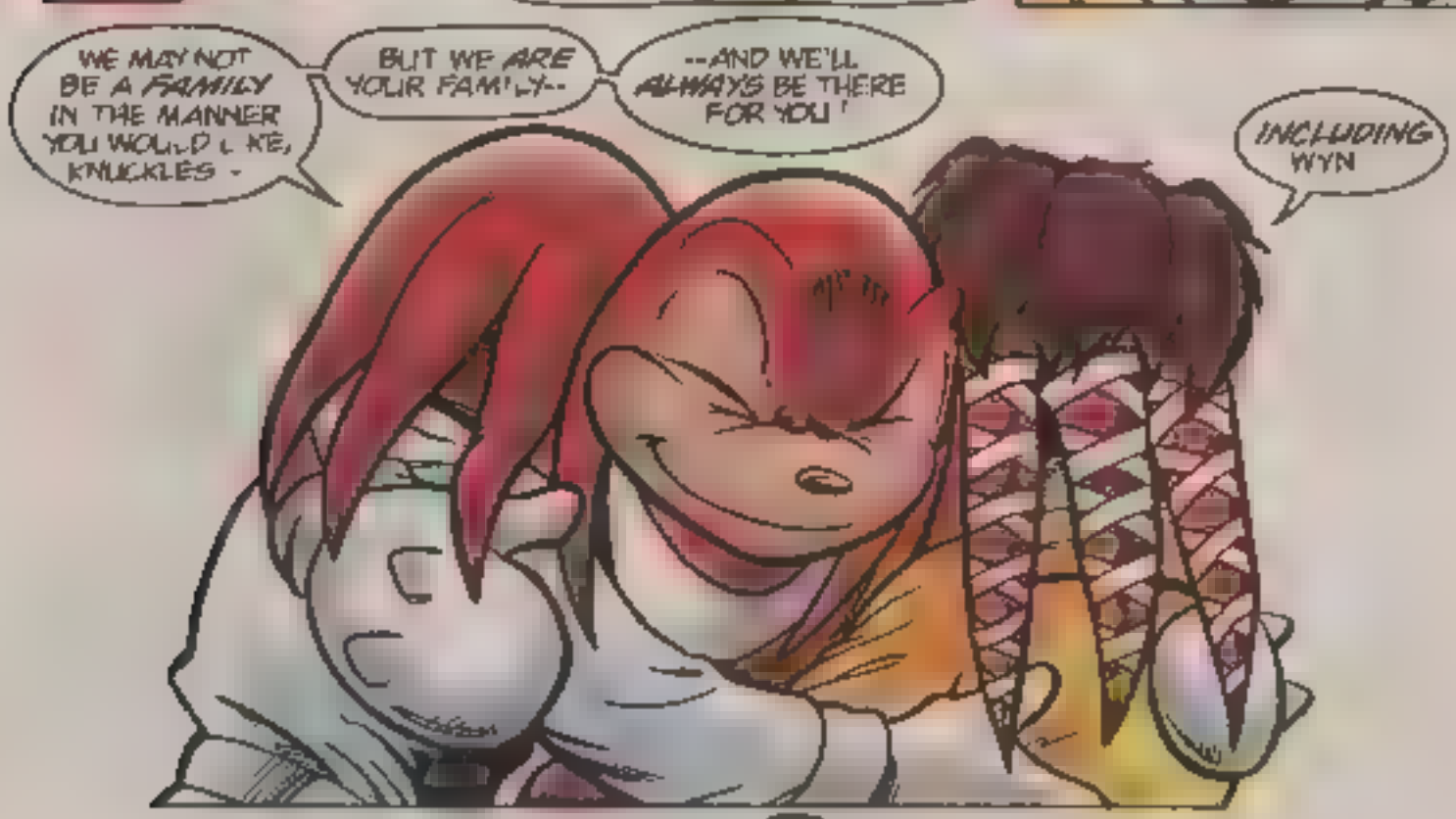



"IF YOU'RE GOING TO A PARTY-PARTY..."
UH--SURE, DAD!
WHAT ABOUT? IS THERE A PROBLEM?

NOT AT ALL
YOUR MOTHER AND I HAD BEEN TALKING AND WE WANTED TO SHARE IT WITH YOU BEFORE YOU PARTIED AWAY THE REST OF THE EVENING!

YOU TWO WOULDN'T BE GETTING BACK TOGETHER, HUH?
IN A WORD--NO!
THAT DOESN'T MEAN WE CAN'T FUNCTION IN A CIVIL MANNER WITH EACH OTHER!
YOUR FATHER AND I HAVE PROFOUND DIFFERENCES--MANY OF THEM OVER YOU!

FOR US TO ALLOW THESE DIFFERENCES FROM EXPRESSING THE PRIDE AND LOVE WE HAVE FOR YOU WOULDN'T BE RIGHT!


WE MAY NOT BE A FAMILY IN THE MANNER YOU WOULD LIKE, KNUCKLES--
BUT WE ARE YOUR FAMILY--
--AND WE'LL ALWAYS BE THERE FOR YOU!
INCLUDING WYN

I THINK I BETTER REJOIN MY OWN PARTY!

IF YOU DON'T, YOU MAY NOT HAVE A DANCE PARTNER ANYMORE!

WE'LL SEE ABOUT THAT!

OUR BOY IS GROWING UP, LARA!

MUCH TOO FAST, IF I MAY SAY SO!

AND I'LL PROBABLY STILL FEEL THE SAME YEARS FROM NOW!

EXCUSE ME--

--BUT I WAS WONDERING IF I COULD CUT IN!

BUT OF COURSE, GUARDIAN!

Y'KNOW, IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I LAST CELEBRATED ANYTHING WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS--

--THAT YOU HAVE NO IDEA HOW SPECIAL THIS IS!

THIS IS YOUR NIGHT, KNUCKLES!

JUST RELAX AND HAVE FUN!

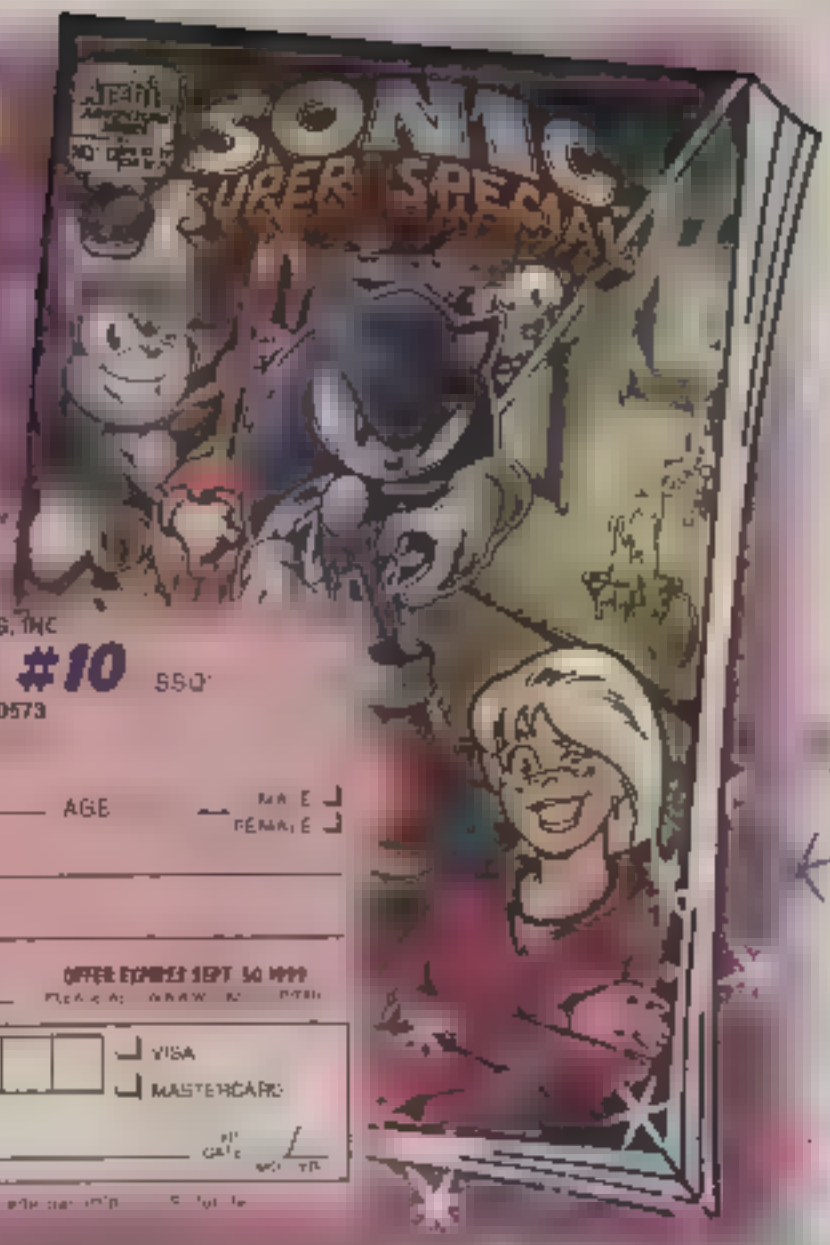
BUT WHAT ABOUT OUR DATE?

THERE'S ALWAYS NEXT WEEKEND-

--WOULDN'T YOU AGREE?

IT'S A DATE!
SPEAKING OF DATES, WON'T YOU JOIN US AND KNUCKLES NEXT MONTH AND LEARN ABOUT "MY SPECIAL FRIEND" IT'S NOT WHAT YOU MAY THINK

Guest-starring Sabrina THE TEENAGE WITCH



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LAST ISSUE, WE SAW
MIGHTY
STARING AT THE IMMENSE VAULT DOOR BEFORE HIM.
UHH--
CALLING UPON EVERY OUNCE OF STRENGTH WITHIN, MIGHTY FINALLY REMOVES THE OBSTACLE BLOCKING HIS PATH TO WHATEVER LIES WITHIN...
LET'S GET YOUR TREASURE, NIC, SO I CAN GET ON WITH FINDING MY BUDDY--
Writer: Ken Penders
Penciler: Manny Galán
(page 3 by Andrew Pepoy)
Inker: Andrew Pepoy
Colorist: Frank Gagliardo
Letterer: Vickie Williams
Editor: J.F. Gabrie
-RAY THE SQUIRREL?!!
I THOUGHT YOU WERE--
--D-D-D-DEAD?!
F-F-FAR FROM IT! ABOUT TIME S-S-SOMEBODY SHOWED UP!
WHAT'S HE DOING WITH MY TREASURE?!!
DON'T YOU MEAN OUR TREASURE?
BELOW THE BELT
1

YOU MEAN YOU'VE BEEN HERE SINCE WE THOUGHT YOU DISAPPEARED ?!!

H-H-HAVE I REALLY BEEN GONE THAT LONG ?

S-S-SEEMS LIKE ONLY HOURS AGO WHEN YOU, SONIC AND I HEADED OVER TO ROBOTNIK'S LAB...

THERE'S FIONA, JUST LIKE I SAID, MIGHTY!

YOU LOOK FAMILIAR ! HAVE WE MET ?

PERHAPS YOU'RE RELATED TO SIR CHARGES, ONE OF MY MORE LOYAL ROBOTIC MINIONS ?

UNFORTUNATELY, I NEED TO DEMONSTRATE TO ONE AND ALL WHAT HAPPENS TO ANY WHO OPPOSE MY WILL!

BLAST THEM!

ZZZZT!

GET DOWN, SONIC ! MY SHELL WILL SHIELD US !

ZZZZT!

THOSE SWATBOTS COULDN'T HIT THE BROAD SIDE OF THIS HEDGEHOG !

" WHILE YOU AND SONIC WERE DRAWING THEIR FIRE, I MADE MY WAY TO THE DEVICE CONNECTED TO FIONA AS PLANNED.. "

JUST ABOUT THERE--

I GOT IT ! I GOT THE POWER STONE !

" AND THE NEXT THING I KNEW-- "

ZZZAAP!

"-- I WAS DOING A DISAPPEARING ACT..."

RAY!

HANG ON, FRIEND!

THE LI'L GUY NEEDS US --LIKE NOW!

GIVE IT ALL YOU GOT! I'M RIGHT WITH YOU!

NOOO! WE'RE TOO LATE! WE'RE--

THEY'RE GONE!

WHOA! WAS THAT TRIPPIN', RAY, OR WHAT?

SOME SORT OF DELAYED REACTION, I GUESS!

OOOH, I SPOKE TOO SOON!

I SURE THOUGHT SO!

WAITAMINUTE! WHERE'S RAY?!!!

YOU MEAN-- HE DIDN'T COME THROUGH THE ZONE WITH US?

WE THOUGHT YOU RETURNED FROM THAT WILD ZONE* WITH US!

SONIC AND I WERE JUST ABOUT TO TEAR INTO THE 'BOTS WHEN WE REALIZED...

HE DIDN'T MAKE IT BACK!

*WANT TO SEE WHAT ACTUALLY HAPPENED TO SONIC, RAY AND MIGHTY IN THAT ZONE? LET US KNOW JFG

HE'S GONE!! GONE FOR GOOD!!!

NOOOOOOOOO!!!

EGADS!

THAT OVERWROUGHT ORGANISM WILL DESTROY MY ENTIRE OPERATION UNLESS I DO SOMETHING FAST!

ATTENTION, SWATBOTS-

-ADJUST SETTINGS FROM "STUN" TO "FULL FORCE"!!

FIRE!!!

THEY REALLY MEAN BUSINESS NOW!

MAYBE WE CAN TURN THEIR STRENGTHS TO OUR ADVANTAGE!

FOR INSTANCE, THE 'BOTS' ARMOR REFLECTS THEIR BLASTS QUITE EXCELLENTLY, WOULDN'T YOU SAY?

"WHAT ROBOTNIK WAS ACTUALLY DOING WAS BUYING TIME, AS HIS REAL OBJECTIVE WAS..."

NOW, PLACE HER ABOARD SO WE MAY YET SALVAGE SOMETHING OUT OF THIS MESS!

R

"...IT WAS THEN WE NOTICED..."

ROBOTNIK!

HE'S GONE!

WE'VE GOT TO GET HIM, SONIC! HE'S GOT TO PAY FOR RAY!

"BUT WE WERE TOO LATE..."

MY PLAN TO INFILTRATE THE RESISTANCE CELLS MAY BEAR FRUIT YET!

ROBOTNIK'S GONE, AND RAY-

YOU HAVE TO HAVE HOPE!

I'VE SEEN SOME STRANGE THINGS OCCUR WHEN POWER GEMS ARE INVOLVED!

RRRRRRRR!

APPARENTLY, SONIC KNEW WHAT HE WAS TALKING ABOUT!

NOW THAT WE'RE SETTLED WITH WHAT HAPPENED TO RAY HERE--

--WHAT ABOUT YOU, FIONA?

IT WAS THE *WEIRDEST* THING.

WHEN ROBOTNIK RELOCATED TO ANOTHER LAB, HE MADE AN *EXACT ROBOT DUPLICATE* OF ME...

FIONA FOX, I GIVE YOU--

--*FIONA FOX! PERFECT*, ISN'T SHE?

"I COULDN'T TELL YOU WHAT HE DID WITH THE ROBOT,* BUT HE LEFT ME TO ROT IN A CELL, MY ONLY COMPANY BEING THE 'BOTS WHO MAINTAINED THE PLACE...

*BUT WE CAN CHECK OUT SONIC #28 & 29. -JFG

"AFTER SEVERAL *FALSE* STARTS AND MUCH HARD WORK, OVER TWO LONG AND PAINFUL YEARS LATER, I HAD FINALLY CLAWED MY WAY *OUT*, WHERE I FOUND...

"... EVENTUALLY, I REALIZED NO ONE WOULD BE ABLE TO FIND ME--

"... AND SO I BEGAN TO *SECRETLY* DIG A TUNNEL.

A WEASEL!

YOU'RE NOT SAFE *SCAVENGING* AROUND THESE PARTS!

OH, YEAH?

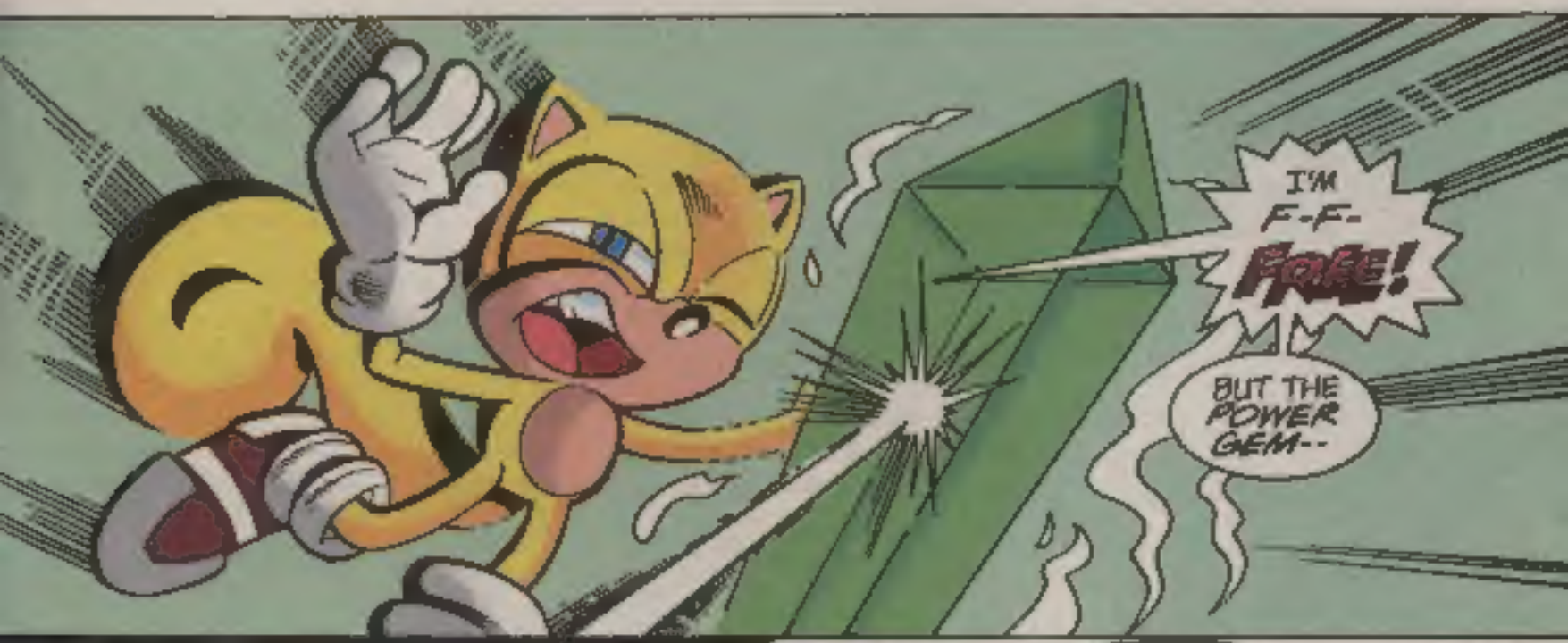
FOR *ONCE*, NIC LISTENED TO ME AND WE'VE BEEN EXIST NG ON THE FRINGES EVER SINCE!

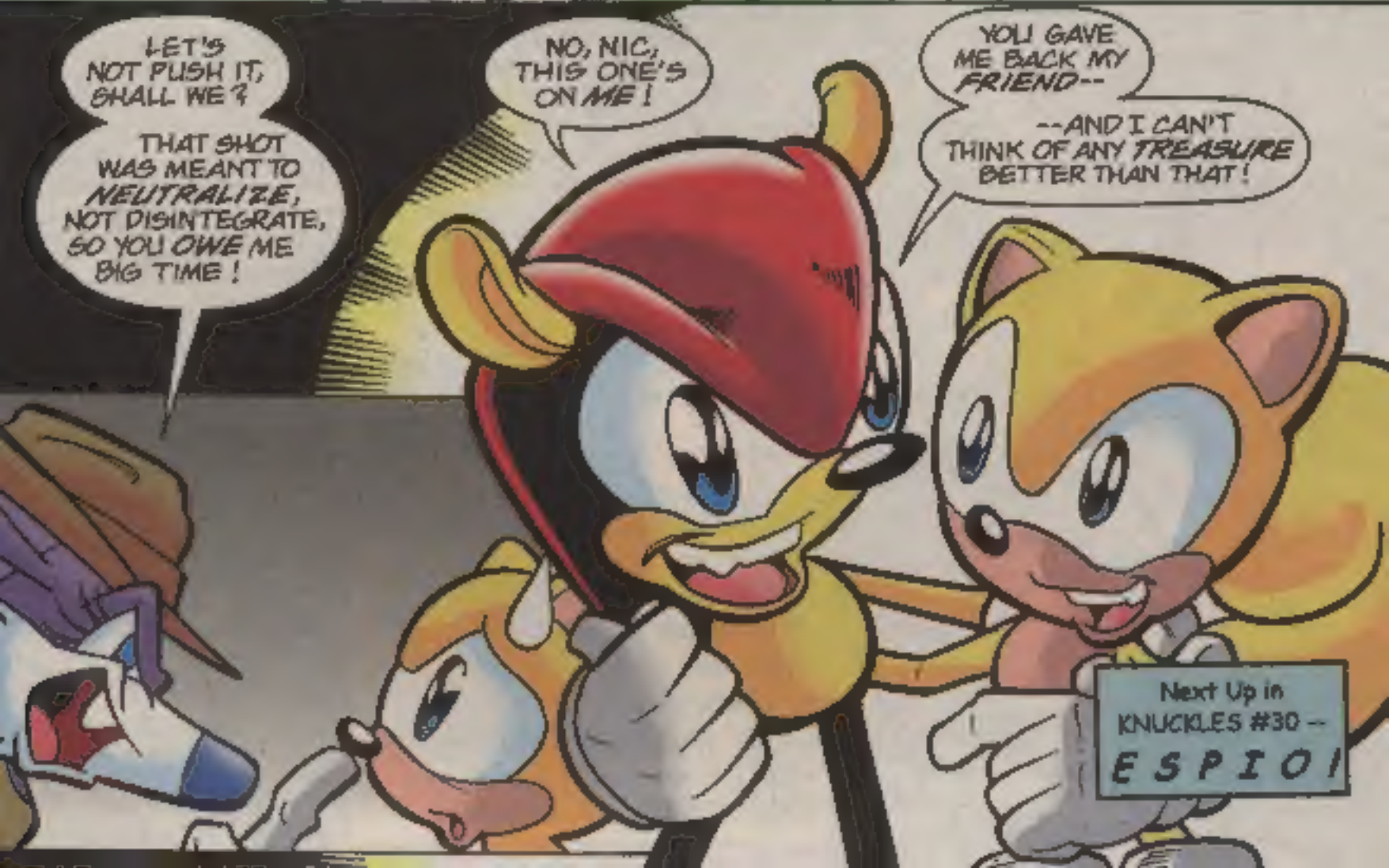
W-W-WHILE I-I-I'M HAPPY FOR YOUR SAKE, F-FIONA, HAS EVERYONE *F-F-FORGOTTEN* I'M STILL B-BETWEEN ZONES?

HARDY--
--CONSIDERING YOU'RE HANGING ONTO WHAT I WANT!

W-W-WELL, DO S-S-SOMETHING, THEN!
M-M-MIGHTY?

FORGET HIM!
THIS OUGHTTA DO THE TRICK!


I'M F-F- FORCE!
BUT THE POWER GEM--


LET'S NOT PUSH IT, SHALL WE?
THAT SHOT WAS MEANT TO NEUTRALIZE, NOT DISINTEGRATE, SO YOU OWE ME BIG TIME!
NO, NIC, THIS ONE'S ON ME!
YOU GAVE ME BACK MY FRIEND--
--AND I CAN'T THINK OF ANY TREASURE BETTER THAN THAT!
Next Up in KNUCKLES #30 -- ESPIO!

FISTFUL OF LETTERS

OFF PANEL **by Gallagher, Manak & Amash**

THIS JUST IN!

And now the return of Letter of the Month:

Hey Ya Rad Red,

The Dark Alliance series (KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA #22-#24) was really good. In the storyline, everything was going well right up until Dimitri had Knuckles in the chamber and everything went nuts. I'm wondering what is so special about Knuckles that Dimitri's entire computer system burnt out. It seems to me that he might be more powerful than any of us thought him to be. It seems to me that sooner or later Sonic and The Freedom Fighters will have to face Dimitri and The Dark Legion. The Legion might be as dangerous as Robotnik ever was. They'll probably be a threat to the whole planet and not just to The Floating Island. Now to the questions: 1) Is Kommisar the daughter of Kragok? 2) How did Dimitri end up looking like a robot when in KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA #9, he was seen as an old man after Mogul stole his powers? By the way, it was also good to see Harry the cab driver again who appeared in The Chaotix Caper (KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA #11-#14).

James Santos (age 14)
Oxnard, CA.

Thanks for your letter, James. Now that you've read KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA #24, you know that Knuckles was genetically enhanced and has powers far beyond any of the guardians before him. However, Knuckles never knew how to access that power since he didn't know he had these kind of abilities. In the coming months, Knuckles will continue to learn more about himself and his powers. You're also right about Dimitri and The Dark Legion. They don't want to conquer Mobius until The Floating Island is conquered first. They will do whatever it takes to make that happen. Now on to your questions: 1) They'll be more on the Kommisar and Kragok connection in SONIC SUPER SPECIAL #11. 2) Dimitri was dying of old age so The Dark Legion created a new cyborg body for him to continue to live.

Catch you on the flip side!

J.F. GABRIE
Editor / Art Director

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Note: Due to the overwhelming amount of e-mail and snail mail, it is impossible for us to reply personally to each and every message. However, your opinions are important to us and each message will be read. Also, due to space limitations, some correspondence may be edited. Thanks for understanding!

Re: KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA #24-

Hey Knux!!!

I was REALLY impressed with the Dark Vengeance storyline. The artwork by Jim Valentino rocks!! It was the best thing since the Sonic/Image crossover. Keep up the great work, and I think Jim should be a regular artist for Knuckles. Gotta juice, man!!

Josh Ernst
hedgehogman2@aol.com

Thank you.

Dear Knuckles:

How are you? I have so far read #1-#24 except #7, #8 & #9. I love your comic book. I think Julie-Su is pretty, and that you picked the right girl!! I have a few questions:1) Are you and Julie-Su more than just friends? 2) Will Julie-Su ever have her own mini-series? 3) Will Charmy ever reappear in the Chaotix team? and 4) Will Vector and Julie-Su ever stop fighting?

Robert Sutton
Loveland, OH

If you're looking to complete your collection, you can order KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA #7, #8, & #9 (Dark Vengeance) from the Sonic Checklist on the last page of this issue. 1) Maybe. 2) You never know. 3) Only the future will answer that question for you. 4) Maybe not.

Dear J Freddy,

I just read Knuckles #24 and I must say that Jim Valentino did a really good job. Harvo also did a great job (as always). I hope we'll see him doing more guest inking. Now I have a question: If Julie-Su has the enhancements like her former team, how did she stay awake when they were all knocked out by Knuckles big explosion?

maxthefox@yahoo.com

Julie-Su's enhancements are not as extensive as some of the other Legionnaires who depend on them for mobility.

Dear Knuckles Staff,

KNUCKLES #24 was awesome! I really liked the artwork, and the storyline was exciting. Lately, I think that most comics are just words and drawings mashed together, but the Knuckles comics are full of ideas and drawings that can actually be enjoyed because you know what's going on. I was wondering about something not really concerning Knuckles: Could you at some time bring Rob O' The Hedge back for an appearance?

Chelan Bendickson
Pughvrm@aol.com

Anyone else want to see Rob O'The Hedge? Send in a letter and let us know.

Dear Editor,

I feel so excited about the upcoming KNUCKLES #25. I have some questions: 1) Does a guardian only have to be a male? 2) If it can be either male or female, why have you not shown a female guardian? Well, I hope to see a lot more of your good comic books.

Megan Chapma
Florence, AZ.

On the subject of a female guardian, you have already seen one. Janelle-Li was a female guardian shown in KNUCKLES #11. Check it out.

Well, that's it for this month. Thank you all for your comments. See you in thirty. And remember...

KEEP COOL!

Cover by Patrick Spaziante and Ken Penders; Colors and separations by Darrin Moore and Heroic Age.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

In one week: In this issue-length nail-biter, Sonic and The Freedom Fighters find out just who has been playing the role of Dr. Robotnik all these many months and what he plans to do to them and all those who reside in the city of Mobotropolis. This special seventy-fifth anniversary issue is brought to you by Karl Bollers, Steven Butler and Pam Eklund.

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #75 on sale late July 1999!

Next Month: Guest-starring the ever-popular Princess Sally! Sally pays a visit to The Brotherhood of Guardians on The Floating Island on a diplomatic mission on behalf of her father. Will her mission of mercy succeed or fail? Don't miss this issue-length epic! Check out "My Special Friend" written by Ken Penders with art by Art Mawhinney and Rich Koslowski.

KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA #29 on sale early August 1999!

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